HARRIET MELLON, THE ACTRESS.

Like many members of her profession, Harriet Mellon was superstitious. Numerous instances of this are on record, several of which were frequently mentioned, in her prosperous days.

She had faith in dreams. Once, while yet an actress, she told Anderson, the hairdresser of the theatre, that she had repeatedly dreamed that she had been tried for her life, sentenced to death, and actually executed.

The man, who had the reputation of being a true interpreter, assured her that it was "a fine dream, indicating that she was to be a grand lady, and to hold her head high, perhaps to be received at court."

At that time, her salary was only three or four pounds a week. Good-humoredly, she assured Anderson that whenever his prediction was fullfilled, *he* alone should dress her hair for court.

Years passed on. Miss Mellon advanced in her profession, became a grand and rich lady by marriage, and was to be presented at court. Inquiry being made, Anderson was found in a little shop in Worthing, then an obscure watering-place on the Sussex coast.

She sent for him, and he did dress her hair, not only then but for each successive reception at court, until 1836, the year before her death. Each time he was paid thirty pounds for his attendance. Neither of them had forgotten the dream.

In another instance, one of her dreams was narrated to a coachmaker, a professional interpreter, who assured her of her triumph over difficulties, concluding with a promise that she would one day ride in her own coach. "Then," said the sanguine lady, "if I do, you shall build it." Years after, when the man had forgotten the incident, Miss Mellon, keeping her promise, gave him an order to build the first carriage she ever possessed, and she employed him, in a like manner, to her death.

She was very fond of ghost stories, and had a passion for reading such tales of terror as the newspaper narratives of murders and robberies. Ever joyous and elastic as her temperment had been, she was haunted by *one* special dread—she was fearfully afraid that house-breakers would make good their predatory entrance, attempt to take her life, and leave her mortally wounded. The sound of footsteps at night, the turning of keys in doors, the slightest unfamiliar noise, would affright her, and sometimes, under a paroxysm of dread, she would have a Bow street police-officer walk before her dwelling, at night, for weeks.

She had an idea that some fatality would work against her on Twelfth Day; that it was judicious, as well as lucky, to taste mince pies on New Year's Day, tansy pudding at Easter, goose at Michaelmas, and plum pudding and roast beef at Christmas, and that on no account should thirteen sit down to table, as one of them must surely die within a year. She would not walk under a ladder without crossing her fore-fingers "for luck."

The first time she was going to court, as Duchess of St. Albans, her foot was on the step of the state-coach when she abruptly withdrew it, silently re-entered her house, and had her gorgeous drawing-room dress and rich diamonds taken off.

The fact was, as related by herself, that just as she was entering the coach she remembered that she had forgotten to say her prayers, as usual, before leaving her bedchamber, that morning, and was afraid some misfortune would happen to her, if she carried out, under such circumstances, on that day, her idea of being presented to her earthly sovereign.

Miss Mellon's close acquaintance with Mr. Coutts began about the year 1805, when he was seventy-four, her age being twenty-eight. He had occasionally seen her in the green-room.

In her last illness, she had herself removed to Mr. Coutts' room, and fancied, from the moment this had been done, that the sensation of pain, which had previously been considerable, had ceased at once.

To Lady Guilford, her eldest step daughter, whom she placidly received, she said that Mr. Coutts' spirit (as had been promised in his lifetime) was breathing upon her, and had taken the shape of a little bird, singing at her window.

In fact, the garden attached to her house in London was crowded with birds, which she fed every day. They used to enter her boudoir through a window left open for them.—*Dr. R. Shelton Mackenzie.*

ARE YOU "45?"

At a recent church lottery drawing, in the fair to look upon city of Bloomington, "45" was announced as the lucky number which won the main prize. No one responded to the call and the next day as a gentleman, who had invested heavily in the concern, chanced to meet a youthful lady acquaintance, whom, he had every reason to believe might hold the fortunate ticket, suddenly stopped that lady and nearly paralyzed her by anxiously inquiring:

"O! say, are you "45?"

"No, you infernal fool, I am not forty-five, I am only eighteen.

When his friends took him up tenderly he was as limp as a dish cloth. He will live—but the bitter experience will not soon be forgotten. Probably the next time he asks a lady a question he will assay his words in his mind, just to see how they will pan out.—*Bloomington Eye.*

Who knows not that truth is strong, next to the Almighty? She needs no policies, no stratagems, no licensings, to make her victorious; those are the shifts and defenses that error uses against her power; give her but room, and do not bind her when she sleeps.—*Milton.*

The number three was a favorite one with the Druids, and one of their ceremonies consisted of three silent bows.

An Indianapolis couple were married in 1872, divorced in 1877, remarried in 1879, and now sue to be redivorced.

The latest notion adopted by those who go to fancy-dress balls is to appear in two characters, one before and one after supper.

A Fairview (Md.) boy of fourteen was found hanging by the neck in the forks of a young sapling, where he had accidentally got caught.

Hair-pins are now being gathered together by young male collectors. They are stitched into albums and labeled with the names of former wearers.

A Saxon, under King Ethelbert, could pull the nose of an enemy if he had three shillings to spare, but if he made the nose bleed it cost him five shillings.

It is said that the horn of a rhinoceros when cut through the middle exhibits each side the rude figure of a man, the outlines being marked by small white strokes.

A plucky little woman at Rogers, Ark., stopped a tramp, who had the smallpox, in the suburbs of the town, and made him walk around it and continue his journey.

A twelve-year-old boy of Jackson, Michigan, fell down a coal shaft, twenty-five feet, head first, striking upon a boiler iron floor, but he escaped without any material damage.

France and Italy have hitherto produced sugar only from the beet root. The sugar cane has lately been introduced in both countries, and its rapid growth threatens the beet root industry.

The war footing of the German army has been established by the budget at 500,000 men. In the event of war, the number could be doubled at twenty-four hours' notice by telegraph.

A schoolmaster in Southern Oregon resigned because two of the directors would not sustain him in his effort to stop urchins from squirting tobacco juice on the stove during school hours.

A four-year-old boy of Clay county, Indiana, is undergoing treatment at Indianapolis for spinal troubles, brought on by excessive smoking. The invalid has been a heavy smoker for a year and a half.

Philadelphia has one policeman to every 504 inhabitants, Boston one to 781, St. Louis one to 742, Cincinnati one to 761, Baltimore one to 800, while Chicago and Montreal have each one to about every 1,000 of their population.

After a wedding party had assembled in a church at Bloomington, Ill., the father of the girl offered her $500 if she would back out. She took the money, remained at home, and sent word to the minister to dismiss the assembly.

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